

Appl. No. 09/878,537
Amdt. Dated February 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 8, 2004

REMARKS

This amendment is made in response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2004. Applicants have attempted to address every issue raised by the Examiner and believe that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Claims 1 and 3 have been further amended to better distinguish the claimed product from that of the prior art. Claims 12-19 have been cancelled. Claim 20 has been amended to be consistent with the present amendment to claim 3. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claim 1. Applicants have added new claims 22 – 29, dependant on claim 1 having the same features as present claims 4-11. Each of these claims is believed to be allowable at least because it depends from a claim that is novel and non-obvious. Early allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has drawn our attention to the fact that all claims would be allowable if directed to a toner image. This suggestion has been incorporated into claims 3 – 11 by the present amendment to claim 3. Claims 4-11 and 20 each depend from claim 3 and

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therefore include all features of that claim. Claim 20 has been amended to be consistent with the present amendment to claim 3.

Reconsideration of the claims and allowance of the rejected claims are respectfully requested. Since all claims were suggested by the Examiner as being allowable in the previous Office Action, an early allowance of these claims is requested. The Examiner should contact the undersigned or Applicants' attorney, Jay Saltzman, at (847) 657-7683 if a telephonic interview would expedite prosecution, or send correspondence to the address below:


Illinois Tool Works Inc.
3600 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, Illinois 60025

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

February 7, 2005

By



Carole A. Mickelson
Registration No. 30,778
Attorney for Applicants